

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 ROME 05311 161853Z

50

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 EURE-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 USIE-00

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07

PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 NIC-01 SAJ-01 OMB-01

AID-20 DRC-01 IO-14 /123 W

----- 084677

O R 161820Z APR 74

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4345

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE IMMEDIATE

INFO AMCONSUL ZAGREB

AMCONSUL TRIESTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L ROME 5311

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, IT, YO

SUBJECT: TRIESTE ZONE B DISPUTE

REF: (A) BELGRADE 1825; (B) BELGRADE 1826

1. UPON RECEIPT REFTELS POLITICAL COUNSELOR CALLED ON VICE DIRECTOR FOR POLITICAL AFFAIRS GARDINI TO NOTE THAT OUR INFORMATION FROM BELGRADE CONCERNING TITO'S APRIL 15 SARAJEVO SPEECH INCLUDED SOME POINTS NOT COVERED TO OUR KNOWLEDGE IN ITALIAN PRESS FROM LEFT TO RIGHT. POLITICAL COUNSELOR WONDERED IF ITALIAN INFORMATION SQUARED WITH OURS. GARDINI SAID THAT HE HAD IN FACT JUST LEFT DIRECTOR GENERAL POLITICAL AFFAIRS DUCCI WITH WHOM HE HAD READ REPORT OF SPEECH FROM ITALIAN EMBASSY BELGRADE. ITALIAN EMBASSY REPORT ALSO NOTED INDICATION OF YUGOSLAV WILLINGNESS TO TALK ABOUT "CONCRETE QUESTIONS ABOUT THE BORDER - TO OUR ADVANTAGE OR TO (THE ITALIANS')", AND TITO'S STATEMENT THAT "WE DON'T WANT TO FURTHER INFLAME THIS ISSUE, RATHER TO TURN TOWARDS CALMING IT".

2. ITALIANS HAVE DRAWN FROM THIS AND OTHER DEVELOPMENTS THE
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 ROME 05311 161853Z

CONCLUSION

THAT THE PRESENT CRISIS IS ON THE WAY TO RESOLUTION. GARDINI COMMENTED THAT IT FOLLOWED REMARKABLY WELL THE PREDICTION OF HIS PREDECESSOR, AT THE TIME THE LAST ITALO-YUGOSLAV TALKS ON THE BORDER BROKE DOWN, THAT THE YUGOSLAVS WOULD IN DUE COURSE CREATE A CRISIS TO UNDERSCORE THE POINTS THAT THEY WISHED TO MAKE IN THE MATTER. IN ADDITION TO THE ABOVE QUOTED SIGNALS IN TITO'S SPEECH, GARDINI SAID THAT FOR THE MOST PART THE YUGOSLAV TROOPS, WHO HAD BEEN EXERCISING NEAR THE BORDER, HAVE BEGUN TO RETURN TO THEIR BASES IN LJUBLJANA AND ELSEWHERE. GARDINI CONCLUDED THAT IN HIS VIEW THE YUGOSLAVS COULD NOT ACCEPT A SETTLEMENT SCENARIO IN WHICH THEY MIGHT APPEAR TO HAVE PURCHASED DE JURE YUGOSLAV STATUS FOR ZONE B, EVEN THOUGH THE PRICE MIGHT BE ONLY A FEW SQUARE YARDS OF GROUND. GARDINI NOW BELIEVES THAT, HAVING STATED FLATLY AND FIRMLY THAT ZONE B IS NO LONGER ZONE B BUT INSTEAD YUGOSLAVIA, THE YUGOSLAVS MAY WELL "IN A GENEROUS SPIRIT" BE PREPARED TO TALK IN DUE COURSE ABOUT THE DELINEATION OF A MORE PRACTICAL ITALY-YUGOSLAV BORDER; SUCH TALKS TO BE UNRELATED HOWEVER TO THE STATUS OF ZONE B.

3. UPON INQUIRING AS TO THE PRESENT STATUS OF THE CURRENT EXCHANGE OF NOTES WITH YUGOSLAVIA, EMBOFF WAS INFORMED THAT "AT THIS MOMENT" SECRETARY GENERAL GAJA WAS PRESENTING ITALIAN REPLY TO YUGOSLAV MARCH 30 NOTE. (THE TIME WAS 1800 NOT RPT NOT 1830). GARDINI WENT ON TO VOLUNTEER THAT THE ITALIAN NOTE WAS "IN THE SPIRIT OF DETENTE". HE REPEATED WITH EMPHASIS THAT THE NOTE WAS "VERY MUCH IN THE SPIRIT OF DETENTE". GARDINI SAID THE NOTE DOES NOT EVEN DISCUSS THE STATUS OF ZONE B AND HE HOPES IT WILL FURTHER THE APPARENT WINDDOWN OF TENSION. GARDINI SAID THAT IN FACT THE ITALIANS WOULD NOT WISH TO RELEASE THE NOTE TO THE PRESS AT THIS PARTICULAR TIME IN VIEW OF ITS CONTRAST WITH THE HARD TONE OF TITO'S SPEECH AS IT WAS CONSISTENTLY REPORTED BY THE ITALIAN PRESS, ACROSS VIRTUALLY THE WHOLE POLITICAL SPECTRUM.

4. GARDINI APPRECIATED OUR DESIRE TO SHARE WITH THE ITALIANS INFORMATION WHICH THEY MIGHT WELL NOT HAVE HAD. IN THIS CASE IT WAS CLEAR THAT THE FOREIGN MINISTRY HAS PICKED UP THE SIGNALS WHICH, AS TITO'S SPEECH WAS REPORTED HERE, WERE PRETTY WELL CONCEALED IN THE FOREST OF HARD THINGS TO SAY ABOUT THE ITALIANS. IT SEEMS ALSO CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 ROME 05311 161853Z

CLEAR THAT THE ITALIANS ARE SINCERE IN THEIR DESIRE TO THE SITUATION AND CONFIDENT THAT THEIR NOTE WILL SERVE THAT FUNCTION. WE ARE KEEPING OUR FINGERS CROSSED. VOLPE

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: SOVEREIGNTY, FOREIGN RELATIONS, PARTITION, TERRITORIAL CLAIMS, NEGOTIATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 16 APR 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974ROME05311
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740087-0971
From: ROME
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740439/aaaabjff.tel
Line Count: 110
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: (A) BELGRADE 1825; (B) BELGRADE 1826
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 21 MAY 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <21 MAY 2002 by shawdg>; APPROVED <26 MAR 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: TRIESTE ZONE B DISPUTE
TAGS: PFOR, IT, YO
To: STATE BELGRADE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005